



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration  
Boston Healthcare System

## News Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2023

## VA/BU psychologist honored by American Psychological Foundation

BOSTON – A psychologist at the National Center for PTSD at VA Boston Healthcare System, and professor of psychiatry at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, has been selected to receive the 2023 American Psychological Foundation Gold Medal Award for Impact in Psychology.

Dr. Jillian C. Shipherd is a clinical research psychologist at the Women's Health Sciences Division of the National Center for PTSD. She also serves as deputy director for the LGBTQ+ Health Program at the Veterans Health Administration in Washington D.C., overseeing policy recommendations, provider education programs and clinical services to support proactive and patient-driven health care for LGBTQ+ Veterans.

The award recognizes the work of a psychologist or group of psychologists that is impactful, innovative and transformational.

Additionally, Shipherd, along with Dr. Sarah E. Valentine, assistant professor psychiatry BU Chobanian & Avedisian SOM, were honored with an Editor's Choice Award by the journal Psychological Assessment, for their paper, "Considerations and Complexities of Accurate PTSD Assessment Among Transgender and Gender Diverse Adults." According to the award description, Editor's Choice papers represent the best science in each area of discipline, reflecting science that is exceptionally important and impactful.

Shipherd earned her PhD in clinical psychology at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and completed her predoctoral internship at the VA Boston HCS. Her area of expertise is the interface of mental and physical health subsequent to trauma, with a focus on sexual and gender minority populations. She has published on improving healthcare system responses to the unique needs of LGBTQ+ Veterans and is the author of more than 130 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters, as well as the book Adult Transgender Care: An Interdisciplinary Approach for Training Mental Health Professionals.

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Dr. Jillian C. Shipherd, deputy director for the LGBTQ+ Health Program at the Veterans Health Administration in Washington D.C., clinical research psychologist at the Women's Health Sciences Division of the National Center for PTSD at VA Boston Healthcare System, and a professor of psychiatry at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine. (VA Boston HCS photo)

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